Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of performing a task in a processor-based system that includes a monitor and a user input device for controlling information displayed on the monitor, the method comprising:

displaying on the monitor a plurality of connector pieces representing respective tasks to be completed, the pieces arranged in a tree reflecting a hierarchy of tasks, wherein each of the connector pieces has a shape that i) corresponds to a type of task, and that ii) is different from the shape of a connector piece corresponding to a different type of task;

displaying a plurality of attachment pieces on the monitor, each of the attachment pieces being configured to interconnect with at least one of the connector pieces, wherein each of the attachment pieces has a shape that corresponds to a type of task, such that when the shape of a given connector piece matches the shape of a given attachment piece, then the given attachment piece corresponds to a way of completing the task represented by the given connector piece;

using the user input device to position one of the attachment pieces and one of the connector pieces in close proximity with each other on the monitor, said one attachment piece and said one connector piece having matching shapes that correspond to a particular task selected by a user to be completed, said proximity positioning indicating a desire on the part of a user to complete the particular task; and

inputting into the processor information necessary to ~~performing~~ perform the particular task, wherein the user is prompted for said information following said positioning.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said positioning results in said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces appearing interconnected.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said inputting includes confirming default settings from the processor.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces have matching colors prior to said proximity positioning, to aid the user in matching said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces have respective contours that substantially match when they are interconnected.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces have matching images thereon prior to said proximity positioning, to aid the user in matching said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the connector pieces itself includes interconnected pieces.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, said positioning including initially placing said one of the attachment pieces next to a piece other than said one of said connector pieces, in which said one of said attachment pieces is then repositioned to appear interconnected with said one of the connector pieces.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, said positioning including moving said one of the attachment pieces from one part of the tree to another part of the tree.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the <u>particular</u> task represents the installation of a printer.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the attachment pieces is selected from a menu on the monitor.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said one of the attachment pieces is selected from a toolbar on the monitor.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein a plurality of pieces are displayed in a piled, overlapping fashion.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tree includes at least one subtree, the tree and subtree having respective connector pieces having different shapes, and wherein the attachment pieces include pieces that interconnect with said tree connector piece and said subtree connector piece, respectively.

15. (Currently amended) A processor-implemented method of performing a task, comprising:

displaying a first piece on a monitor connected to a processor, the first piece positioned within a tree that includes a plurality of pieces, the first piece representing a <u>particular type of</u> task to be performed<u>, said plurality of pieces in the tree representing respective tasks to be completed, and wherein each of said plurality of pieces has a shape that i) corresponds to a type of task, and that ii) is different from the shape of a piece in the tree corresponding to a different type of task</u> ;

displaying a second piece on the monitor, wherein the second piece is configured to interconnect with the first piece, the first and second pieces having respective <u>preselected</u> contours that substantially match when interconnected<u>, thereby indicating to a user of the method that the second piece represents a way of completing the particular task represented by the first piece</u> ;

positioning the first and second pieces on the monitor in close proximity to each other, said positioning indicating a desire on the part of a user to perform the <u>particular</u> task; and

inputting into the processor information necessary to ~~performing~~ <u>perform</u> the <u>particular</u> task, wherein the user is prompted for said information following said positioning.

16. (Currently amended) A method of creating a visual representation of a task to be performed, comprising:

displaying on a monitor a first set of pieces arranged in a tree, the pieces corresponding to tasks to be performed, wherein the pieces are designed to mate with respective counterpart pieces;

displaying an additional piece on the monitor; and

creating a piece in the tree, the created piece acting hierarchically as a parent to the additional piece <u>, wherein the created piece is taken from a database and is inserted in the displayed tree in the event that there is no piece in the tree that matches the additional piece and the created piece is required in the tree as a parent to the additional piece, thereby communicating to the user that additional selections must be made.</u>

17. (Currently amended) A computer program product, comprising :

a computer readable medium, the medium including machine-readable instructions for carrying out the steps of the method of Claim 1.

18. (Currently amended) A computer program product, comprising :

a computer readable medium, the medium including machine-readable instructions for carrying out the steps of the method of Claim 15.

19. (Currently amended) A computer program product, comprising :

a computer readable medium, the medium including machine-readable instructions for carrying out the steps of the method of Claim 16.

20. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method is used to install an operating system of a computer.

21. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the method is used in an application selected from the group consisting of system administration, human resources administration, and procurement management.

22. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein a plurality of displayed attachment pieces have the same shape, thereby providing the user with more than one way to complete the task corresponding to said same shape.

23. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tasks include tasks selected from the following: installation of software and configuration of software.

24. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein said inputting includes confirming default settings from the processor.

25. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the first and second pieces have matching colors prior to said proximity positioning, to aid the user in matching said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces.

26. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the first and second pieces have matching images thereon prior to said proximity positioning, to aid the user in matching said one of the attachment pieces and said one of the connector pieces.

27. (New) The method of Claim 15, comprising displaying a plurality of pieces configured to interconnect with the first piece, thereby providing the user with more than one way to complete the task corresponding to the first piece.

28. (New) The method of Claim 15, wherein the tasks include tasks selected from the following: installation of software and configuration of software.

29. (New) The method of Claim 16, the tasks including tasks selected from the following: installation of software and configuration of software.

30. (New) The method of Claim 16, wherein each of the pieces in the tree has a shape that i) corresponds to a type of task, and that ii) is different from the shape of a piece in the tree corresponding to a different type of task.

31. (New) The method of Claim 30, each of the counterpart pieces being configured to interconnect with at least one of the pieces in the tree, wherein each of the counterpart pieces has a shape that corresponds to a type of task, such that when the shape of a given piece in the tree matches the shape of a given counterpart piece, then the given counterpart piece corresponds to a way of completing the task represented by the given piece in the tree.

32. (New) The method of Claim 31, comprising displaying a plurality of attachment

pieces having the same shape, thereby providing the user with more than one way to

complete the task corresponding to said same shape.